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SAHT

# PHUKET NOT SO G HO!

Phuket's gun-related crime

2009 2010

January 28 10

February 20 9

March 28 19

DESPITE THE cases of gun related crime dramatically falling since last year, there are still enough incidents per month in Phuket for it to be of concern to the average resident.

Patong Police Officer Samsak Nguansan believes that the number of gun related incidents are in fact indicative of Thailand's current troubles and won't improve until the economy does.

Officer Samsak said "You have to take into account the economical issues; if the young Thai men have no money, then what can they do?"

There were 9 cases of gun related crime in February 2010, 11 less than in January 2009 and 20 cases in March of this year, compared to 28 in the same month of last year.

Fewer tourists are travelling to

Thailand because of the ongoing political instability in Bangkok and this is compounding the desperate situation that Officer Samsak believes many young Thai men are in.

To own a gun in Thailand, you need a license and although many of these men have ownership licenses, most of them don't have the license required to carry it in public and so are therefore breaking the law.

TO FIND OUT WHY THE ABOVE SQUIRREL FEARS FOR HIS LIFE, SEE OUR INTERVIEW WITH A PROUD GUN OWNER ON PAGE 2.

**MR JELLY** 

**BELLY TELLS ALL** 

ESS THAN a year ago, Garry Holden was 125 kilos (20 stone) and exercise was confined to his own imagination, but following a stint on TV weight loss reality show Asia's Biggest Loser, Garry is a trim 80 kilos (12.5 stone) and in training for the Laguna Phuket International Marathon on 13 June.

More than 5,000 entrants from 45 countries are expected to take part in the event, including a few of his fel-

low contestants from the Asia's Biggest Loser show, which was filmed last year in Malaysia.

Phuket resident Garry speaks to the Post about what it was like to be 'Mr Jelly Belly' and how he managed to take those important initial few steps on page 6.







# Shooting straight from the hip

In an effort to understand why anyone besides a police officer or soldier would actually want to own a gun, the Post speaks to Wirat Wisri - a Phuket gun owner.

AN YOU tell us something about you? How old are you and what kind of music and movies do you like?

I'm 35 years old and I like action movies and country songs.

How long have you owned a gun and which model do you have?

I've had my gun for two years and it's .22 Long rifle.



Why did you get a gun? I got a gun to protect the fruit that I grow in my garden from squirrels.

Have you had a need to use it? Yes, I've had to shoot squirrels!

How long did take to get a gun? I can't remember.

Where do you keep your gun? I keep it in the garden

What do you use it for? I use it to shoot small animals and to protect my home from intruders.

How does it make you feel to have a gun? I don't feel anything special or exciting.

Do you think that guns have a bad reputation?

Yes I think so, probably because some gun owners use them in the wrong way.

Are you worried about causing an accident? What if someone gets hurt?

Yes, I was at first but that was when I first got it, now i don't worry.

What do you think about the current Thai laws and regulations with regard to gun ownership? Do you think it should be made more or less strict?

I think the laws are too weak. It's even easier to get a gun if you are somebody who has a lot of money or

Do you think that everyone should have a gun?

No, because this would increase the risk of accidents

and probably the number of criminals.

There seems to be a lot of gun crime in Phuket, how would you solve this problem?

Phuket is a holiday destination so a lot of people come here. It's not only local people that are involved in these crimes. I have no idea how to limit the number of incidents.

If someone asked you to give up your gun what would you do? How would it make you feel to no longer have a gun?

I would not let anyone get my gun because I am responsible and the gun is registered to me.

Feeling a little trigger happy? Well, forget it! If you're not a Thai national then your chances of owning a gun are slimmer than Garry Holden.

Palad Wilairat the Deputy Chief of Muang District office said, "In Phuket we have never allowed any foreigner to own a gun, but it does theoretically depend on each District Chief.'

Khun Palad said that gun registration along with the numbers of gun crimes have been falling of late, "This year's number of gun registrations has decreased by 70% compared to last year's.

It took our squirrel-hating reader three months to receive his licence, but it can take more depending on the type of gun you desire.







- For civil servants or other government officials or employees of state organisations/enterprises.
- For military or police officers.
- For the general public.

## Applicants must be:

- Over the age of 20 years old
- Without physical disability unless the firearm is just for storage
- Without mental disability
- Have an occupation and steady income
- Resident in Thailand
- Resident in the locality for at least six months
- No history of drug use
- Applicant must never have been imprisoned on any criminal charges

- The license to own and use guns Rifles and carbonated guns = 100 baht per firearm/document
  - Other guns = 500 baht per firearm/document
- License to carry firearms in public = 1,000 baht per firearm/document
- Permit to purchase firearms = 5 baht per document
- Permit to purchase ammunition. (except carbonated ammunition) 1% of the total amount spent.

#### **Additional licenses**

- License to make and trade firearms, ammunition, and dynamite = 20 baht per document
- License to repair or change the characteristics of guns and ammo =15 baht per document Others licenses
  - = 5 baht per document

# Light at the end of the tunnel.

By Bupha Ravirot

SECOND seminar on the economic, social and engineering feasibility of building a tunnel between Kathu and Patong was held on 27 April.

It was attended by Phuket governor Wichai Praisangob, Patong Municipality, the Energy and Environmental Engineering Centre [EEEC], and other expert organisations and residents from the Baan Mon (the people who would be most severely affected) in Patong.

The Baan Mon community in particular were invited to present their opinions on the effects that the tunnel would create.

Weera Sombat, a Baan Mon resident said, "Although many of us don't oppose the project, we oppose the idea of the bridge that will connect the tunnel with the road."

She added that if there was another viable option then

she would support it. "There is a statue to commemorate the visit that King Rama IX made in 1959 which would be obscured if the current plans went ahead," she said.

Another resident Raksak Noochet, said that he was worried that their land might be subject to a compulsory purchase order by the government and thought that, "few of the locals would use the tunnel if there is a fee levied on its use."

Others in the commu-

nity, however, thought that the tunnel project would be good for Phuket as it would severely reduce the number of road accidents.

Although a consensus wasn't met between those in the Baan Mon area, the ongoing feasibility studies and research that was conducted has found that a tunnel, as opposed to renovating the existing roads, would be the best way of creating a better link between Patong and Kathu in terms of envi-

ronmental and economic issues, future investment and traffic flow.

The start point of the 1.165km length tunnel would be from the Go Kart track in Kathu through the Nark Kerd Hill and then be connected via a 204 meter bridge across Pisitkoranee Road.

There will be two lanes in each direction inside the tunnel, separated by a median. The connecting concrete bridge will also have four lanes of traffic.

# Separate and divide

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

HE EVASON Phuket Six Senses Spa in Rawai was held up as a shining example of the most active environmentally friendly hotel on the island out of 52 other hotels on the island at a meeting between the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion (DEQP) and different hotels last month.

Siwapol Laolada the environmental officer of the hotel said, "We make compost from food waste, and collect wood and other organic waste that we then use as bio-mass fuel. For the remaining oil, we use bio-diesel for machines. This helps us decrease our expens-

es by about 60% per month."

Jeab Waranthorn Patyarak, the founder of Big Bin – a Thai organisation leading a campaign to encourage people in Thailand to recycle more- was also in Phuket earlier this month to speak to schoolchildren and with officers from the Thalang Social Development Department about environmental issues.

Khun Jeab said, "We currently have only fifteen volunteers (all located in Chiang Mai) who go and train staff and interested parties in how to seperate trash and explain how it can be changed into eco-friendly products around the world."

Here's how it works: environmentally concerned citizens are issued with a Big Bin loyalty card and their individual journey to a cleaner and greener existence begins.

A Big Bin mobile collection truck will then drive around collecting recyclable trash in exchange for Big Bin points! One kilo of trash will get you one point, which means that you only need to to collect 35 kilos (5.5 stones/77 pounds) of plastic bags in order to get one free cloth bag!

The Big Bin campaign is fully operational in Chiang Mai and Nakhon Ratchasima and Khun Jeab plans to launch it in Phuket, Bangkok and Chaiyaphum very soon.

# The Tai Chi Center Phuket 3 x Weekly Classes. 6 - Day Retreats Shaolin Life Method • Energy Balancing • Healing Meditation • Shaolin Trained Instructor The Tai Chi Center Kamala Nathong House 997148 Moo 3, Nomala Beach, Phoket 83120 Testing Testing



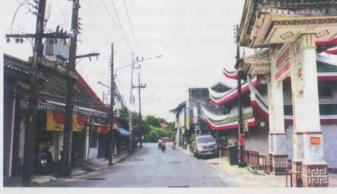
# Road of culture

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

HE KATHU sub-district will no longer be just a road you drive down to get to Phuket town, but as of June will become Phuket's road of culture, as part of a marketing plan to support Phuket tourism now that the high season has finished.

Phuket Vice Governor, Theerayut Eamtrakul met with the Deputy Chief for the Ministry of Culture Thailand (MOCT) and representatives of the Phuket Provincial Office about the benefits that such a project could bring.'

Khun Theerayut said, "The Deputy Chief of MOCT Apinan Posayanond will instruct us on how to make a great Culture Fair. The Phuket Provincial Office has agreed to take responsibility for the



planning of promoting natural tourism (the natural surroundings and local communities). We, in turn, {Kathu Municipality) will host many historical, cultural and traditional activities to promote the local way of life."

The Kathu road of culture fair will be held throughout the month of June along the Kathu Municipality road, various old tin mine sites, and old buildings and shrines in the area.

K Theerayut added, "This fair has been organised to honour Phuket's history, support the economy and promote tourism. We also plan to use this event as a platform on which to urge more people to engage and become interested in Phuket's natural heritage.

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Immigration Police: 076-212108
Phuket Tourist Rescue Centre, Chalong: 076-383907-9 076-383907-9 Phuket Emergency Rescue Centre: 076-217833 Royal Thai Naval Centre: 076-391590, 076-391598

Patong Beach Emergency Rescue Centre (Thung Thong Police Station): 076-321182

# Thailand plays the world

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

O WET the appetites of football fans for World Cup 2010, Phuket will host the 5th World Senior Football Competition (WSFC) between eight participating nations.

Host nation Thailand will square off against Iran, England, and Armenia in Group A and play their games at Surakul stadium during the 6 day

event from 31 May-5

While Group B, comprised of Australia, USA, New Zealand, and Taiwan will play their games at Karon Stadium.

OrBorJor President Paiboon Upatising said, "We will take care of the stadiums, the welcoming of the fans and the security system of the opening and closing ceremonies. We hope for a great event and that the WSFC

may urge Phuket tourism again.

The first match in the competition is between Thailand and Iran and starts at 4pm on Monday 31 May at Surakul Sta-



# **POSTBAG**

# Inappropriate reading

Battle of the Phuket babes

Dear Sir.

I find your article [Battle of the Babes, issue 131] a complete disgrace and it's reasons like this that Phuket gets a bad name.

Your exploitation of, as you call them schoolgirls is close to paedophilia.

You have two schoolgirls of 16 and 15 and are asking them questions that are completely inappropriate for girls of this

Did your reporter not know that they were school girls, asking such stupid questions as your boyfriend or husband is tired and stressed after work, how do you

You really could have done a nice article on the two young girls getting their views about Phuket etc but no you chose to use young SCHOOL GIRLS as sex symbols.

I think it would be of benefit if you would retract the article and make a full apology to the girls and their families and friends, which I am one.

Big mistake you have made.

I'm sorry that you were so disgusted and disgraced by our story. It certainly wasn't our intention. We thought it was a fabulous way to launch the fun new format of the Post with a light-hearted interview with the winners of two local beauty

We're not sure as to whether you are annoyed at the hosting of such events or the coverage. We were well aware of their ages and therefore didn't ask them any questions that wouldn't be found in a typical teen girl's magazine.

There was absolutely no latent or ambiguous meanings intended in either the inclusion of the photos or the wordings of the questions, but we understand how some readers may have misinterpreted the intent of the some of the questions.

The Post has contacted both of the girls and they have informed us that they liked and were happy with it.

We received many entrants for our competition of who should be crowned the Phuket princess and have decided to award it to British International School student, Emma Phillips who was also the first to send an entry in. She wrote, "Becky is happy with who she is and I think she is an inspiration to all girls on Phuket Island."

She wins a Sunday Brunch at The Oriental Spoon Grill & Bar or a Beach BBQ at Catch Beach club. Bon Appetit!

However, the Post would like to point out that both of the young women are witty, confident and pretty Phuket princesses.

We wish Wiranda and Becky the best of luck in their future modeling careers.

Thanks to everyone who writes in to let us know what you think. The Post is your newspaper; together we can make it the most fun and entertaining publication on the island. Keep reading and we'll keep you Posted!

# IT'S A WEIRD. **WEIRD WORLD**

# Vampirism will be prosecuted

AMPIRES BE warned: New Zealand doesn't suck. A recent case at Wellington District Court found two would-be Nosferatu up on charges of "wounding with intent to render a man unconscious" after they and a third teen-vamp attempted to suck the blood of a local man out for a walk in the park after dark.

James Phillip Brooks, 22, and Xenia Gregoriana Borichevsky, 19, admitted that "some blood drinking" was involved, but Mr Brooks claimed he personally had not partaken of the scarlet nectar.

Mr Brooks, who wears a Mohican haircut and has several facial piercings, confronted reporters outside the court, with: "Do I look like a vampire? I'm out during the daytime."

# Dear Judge - Gone Fishin'

NEW ZEALAND vampires may be out of luck with the courts, but it seems that cocaine dealers in the UK can now apply for special benefits to their bail restrictions. A judge at Gloucester Crown Court recently waived the curfew restrictions for two avid anglers so they could undertake a little night fishing, while out on bail for allegedly supplying the Grade-A drug.

Judge Picton was apparently not impressed by the two alleged traffickers' fishing exploits, but agreed to waive the curfew, despite prosecution's objections. The pair had recently been profiled in 'Carp Talk' magazine, their lawyer told the judge.

# Flower power

WHAT THE alleged drug-dealing duo will be catching on their nightly jaunts, is possibly beyond the long arm of the law in the UK at present, because police resources have been stretched thin working round-the-clock protection for Britain's rarest PLANT.

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# Come and have a go if you think you're hard enough

against a wall or plucking guitar strings on your own is fun for a limited time, but after a while you'll more than likely start to hanker for someone to play with.

This is a feeling that Tom Howard (right) knows only too well and he's had enough! He is officially challenging all classic boat owners to a race and basically to 'come and have a go if they think they're hard enough.

For Tom, the love of sailing and being on the sea is innate, it is something he feels he was almost born with, "My first experience was on my Dad's little boat but I've always been interested in them. My true love, however, is for Classic Gentleman's Boats... I bought my first when I was 40 years old." he

said. "I'd like the Phuket Race Tom has a Week to be like the Antigua hundred year-Race Week one day, where old schooner named Seraph. over eighty Classic Boats So called after Seraphin: the archangel who

protected God in biblical folklore. Tom's vessel just like the angel has six appenditures: six sails and wings respectively.

Seraph started out life as a 'buy boat' which would sail out to meet trawlers, collect their catch and then return it to port. She was bought in the 1970's by a Dutch couple who converted her to a Liveaboard schooner. They sailed the seas for the next ten years which eventually brought her to Thailand in the 80's.

She was given a whole new lease on life in 1991 when she was completely restored and renovated and spent the next



decade or so taking divers out to sea. Time and technological advancements, however, has comparatively slowed her

down and she is now retired. But she's not dead, no sir. She is still a beautiful boat with an active

sea life.

compete."

Now her large and ample decks are used as the venue

for events and birthday parties. During her hostess years, she has taken Damian Hurst's wife, kids and nanny out (sans Damian - perhaps he's not as comfortable on water as he is on tarmac).

Retirement, cake, champagne and hosting parties can get boring though and she and current owner Tom are restless. Although there are approximately 10-12 Classic

Boat owners in Phuket, many of them for whatever reason are reluctant to come out to play during Phuket Race Week (PRW).

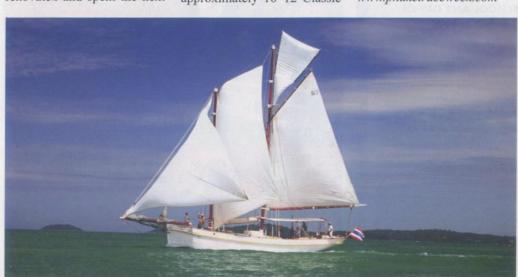
Despite a Classic Race class existing in the Phuket Race Week (PRW) regatta since 2006 it has never really lived up to Tom's expectations and last year there was only one entrant: Tom, "At least I won," he joked.

Tom believes the apathy of the classic boat owners is not beyond repair though, "The

Classic race section at Antigua race week started with just seven classic boats but now they have up to 80 race boats that compete," Tom continues, 'Ideally I'd like the PRW to be like this one day. I know there are some classic boats

in Malaysia and Singapore so I would like to find more Classic Boat enthusiasts.

For more information: www.phuketraceweek.com









# From Mr Jelly Belly to being on the telly

In the first of a series of four, Garry Holden - Asia's Biggest Loser contestant - shares what life was like as Mr Jelly Belly

Y NAME is Garry Holden, I'm 41 years old and not so long ago I weighed more than 120kgs. I was always known as a jolly chap, you know, one of those bubbly 'round' people, but truth be known being overweight was making my life just miserable; I was simply hiding behind a jolly façade.

I had been obese for most of my adult life and had resigned myself to the fact that it was just going to be that way, I was supposed to be fat.

Until recently I was a DJ, mostly working weddings but also corporate and charity events and private parties.



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I loved my work and while it was great fun to work in such a party environment, the lifestyle only added to my ever increasing waistline (and I use the term 'waist' very loosely indeed!). In fact my career prior to being a DJ was as a family entertainer known as Mr Jelly Belly, the name says it all. I just liked to make people happy despite being the butt of many a joke myself.

When I was in my twenties and partying with the guys, I was always the one who went home alone. I could never compete with the 'normal' lads and the girls looked on me like a brother. I was by no means boyfriend material, no one wanted to get down with the fat lad.

I always put on a brave face and laughed it off but deep down it was a very lonely and distressing place.

The pain and embarrassment didn't stop there either; I vividly remember an experience at a fairground when the ride attendant ordered me off the ride because I was too fat. He couldn't secure the safety bar over my huge belly; it had



Left: Khun Joe and Garry working hard to shift those final few

even left me with big welts across my middle where he had tried to force the bar down. So I had to do the 'walk of shame' and poked fun at myself for being too fat before anyone else could.

I had always found food a great source of comfort. It was the one thing that never let me down or disappoint-

ed me. It wasn't so much what I was eating but the amount I was eating. I was eating butt of many a joke myself.

enough for 2 or 3 people every day. Bread was a major weakness together with my love of beer.

Whilst I didn't drink every day, perhaps only once or twice a week, I would drink vast amounts of beer, as if a drought was imminent, and would often be several bottles ahead of my buddies. But oh the bread! I would make rounds of toast to tide me over while I made more for

my breakfast. Ten slices in one sitting would be commonplace for me. Takeaways and fast food were another big problem area for me, always over ordering but somehow managing to polish it off. When I went to McDonalds or Burger King I would order a meal for myself and pretend to call a 'friend' to confirm his order when really I was shamefully ordering two meals for myself but was just too em-

barrassed to admit it.

In the past I made many attempts at losing weight and if I'm being really honest most of them were half-hearted. Like many serial dieters I have lost count of the number of diets I have tried over the years. Of course they all start out well but in no time at all that first hur-

dle would loom and that was that, back came any weight loss together with some interest free poundage! Hardly an inspiration to keep going but as I said - a serial dieter!

Some months ago I had an amazing life changing experience when I was chosen to be a contestant on the premier season of The Biggest Loser Asia. I lost 14kgs on the show and then with the expertise, dedication and amazing focus of my personal trainer, Khun Joe at the RPM's health club, I lost a further 26kgs making a total of 40kgs weight loss. I achieved my goal weight of 80kgs and have turned my life around...

Get the next issue to find out how different Garry's life









and true enough even though I personally couldn't differentiate, the Thai women that I asked - who know a thing

or two about the pursuit of attaining white skin - all indeed pointed to the left.

There were even parts of my face that had apparently been slightly whitened by the process, my brief fear that I may resemble Michael Jackson in his later days was quickly diminished with Tetsuo's clarification, "Some of your skin is damaged and sunburned, so the micro bubbles have repaired the skin."

Micro bubbles also contain agents that defy the aging process and allegedly improve on where the popular Q10 products leave off. Where as the latter products maintain skin cells, micro bubble products create new cells. Tetsuo continued. "The micro bubbles go deep into the skin, remove the dead cells and implant the hormone IGF-1 that makes more cells.

IGF-1 is a sort of growth protein gene that is abundant in teenagers from the ages of 15-17, but after then severely decreases.

Micro bubbles are not just used to repair and treat the skin, but also used in hair treatments and can aide in hair regrowth.

Although -touch wood- I have a full head of hair, I still had my hair washed organic treatment shampoo and treated with the MB Hair Tonic that contains 'three growth factors.' My hair felt strong and well nourished.

The MB House offers a full course for 1,200 baht which includes time in the MB sauna, MB facial mousse, MB shampoo, Thai massage and facial, hands and feet treatment.

It's genuinely a great way to spend the afternoon and with the 25 % discount that can be used in conjunction with this article (see below), it's the perfect time to go and see what may very well become the latest Phuket

ICRO BUBBLE treatment is still relatively even its native country of Japan. So when Japanese native Tetsuo Suse decided to open up a Micro Bubble House in Phuket it was natural that he would be met with a lot of 'huh's?', 'micro what?' and 'bubbles ai, sounds fun!'

A micro bubble is a minute air bubble made of water and air with less than a 10 micrometer diameter. The bubbles are generated and infused in a water flow by using a special micro bubble shower head.

The technology was first invented to clean the Sagami Lake in Japan and after locals and scientists saw the positive effects, it was adapted and used to heal and deep clean the skin cells.

"It's very popular in Japan," beams the youthful looking 60-year old Tetsuo, "Women go and have the treatment in Beauty Salon Association clinics, but it was my daughter Makiko's idea to open a spa."

The Suse family thus hope that combining Japanese technology with traditional Thai massage and spa treatments will be a winning for-

"Here is Phuket, Thailand so I definitely wanted to combine elements of the world-class Thai spas with Japanese innovation to make a new style of spa," said General Manager of MB House, Makiko Suse.

MB House is situated about 6 kms east of the Heroine's Monument, and near to Wat Paklok. The interior has both a traditional and contemporary Japanese feel; various signs with Japanese characters hang on very clinical and clean modern walls.

There are also traditional Goemon (one-person kettleshaped) Japanese baths in the outdoor 'onsen' inspired spa section. Although the baths and almost everything else in the 'House' uses micro bubbles, it is the micro bubble sauna where you really feel and can imagine the micro bubbles at work. I say imagine because you unfortunately can't see or feel the bubbles during the treatment (as the bubbles are so tiny).

Although the sauna is set at 46 degrees, it is in no way uncomfortable or oppressive. It is easy to breathe in and is in fact quite a pleasant place to be.

After a short session, my skin certainly felt much cleaner, smoother and brighter. Towards the end of my treatment Makiko unscrewed the shower head that creates the micro bubbles and applied and rubbed in some of the most bubbly water (I don't want to blind you with science...) to my left hand and exclaimed how much whiter my hand was.

Over the next few days I proceeded to do the hand test

or call (Eng) 089 651 8032 (Thai) 080 3894646

# Dear Andaman Angel,

I've just started seeing a girl that I sort of like. I know I don't love her, well not yet anyway!

But she's already talked about moving in with me and it's been less than two weeks. This is a professional young woman and definitely not what some may term a girl of

How do I let her know that I'm not that into her without hurting her feelings?

## Dear Reader,

Yes the word 'love' is used fairly loosely in Thailand. Or, she may be experiencing the infatuation stage of your romance; if you go cold it may wear off.

However, if you want to continue this relationship perhaps you could try to explain

**ASKTHE** ANDAMANANGEL

to her that from your experience this first rush of love will very soon change into something more meaningful. She needs time to see your faults, as well as your good points. It takes time to understand you and your values.

This is important before you live together otherwise there will be arguments. You respect her and want to take things slowly so that your relationship will blossom. You don't want to argue. You want to take your time to build a solid relationship; taking time to smell the roses along the way.

> Ask the Andaman Angel anything at: andamanangel@phuket-post.com



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# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

15 May, PIA Sports & Leisure Club Muay Thai Workshop A Muay Thai Open Day Workshop will be held on 15 May, with renowned Muay Thai fighter "Thanootong", Prasert (Nok) Intanoo, a previous national champion. Khun Nok will focus on teaching the basic and fundamental techniques of Muay Thai, allowing participants to thoroughly understand the movements and philosophy.

For more information please call PIA Sports & Leisure Club on 076-376000, email activities@phuketinternationalacademy.com or visit http://www.phuketinternationalacademy.com

#### 16 May, Phuket Yacht Club Fun Day

Go for a fun filled day of sailing, kayaking, swimming, cold beers and a Beach BBQ.

Many boats available for rent, from single-handed to two up and multi hull. Sail or join in with the morning races. Or just come and relax and enjoy the BBQ.

For more information, call Donna on 086 120 0752 or visit www. phuketyachtclub.info

#### 19 May, QSI International School:

The school will host an all day Open House to present the Pre-K Program. There will be tours of the campus, information packets and a special presentation at 5.30pm by specialist in early childhood education Dr Maynard Yutzy. *Call 076-524064* 

**21 May, Joint Networking Event:**The British Business Association of Phuket, the International Business Association of Phuket, the Australian Thailand Chamber of Commerce Thailand and the Lighthouse Club, Phuket Branch are all coming together.

The aim of the evening is to allow members to learn more about each other's association, as each has its own particular aims, ideas and projects and to discuss ideas relating to future inter association events and project collaboration.

Everyone is welcome, members and non-members, to this networking evening at The Watermark in The Boat Lagoon on Friday 21st May from 5.30pm onwards.





# Phuket film festival

HE PHUKET Film Festival opens with Paresh Mokashi's debut film, Harishchchandrachi Factor on 4 June and concludes on 13 June with the Phuket premiere of the omnibus "Sawasdee Bangkok

Pairs of tickets for each of the movies can be won by spotting yourself in our new Posted!! Out & About competition on page 9.

"We wish to thank the Indian film industry for using Thailand as a film and TV production base," said Scott Rosenberg, festival director. "and all of the other international films that have used the wonderful landscapes available in the Kingdom."

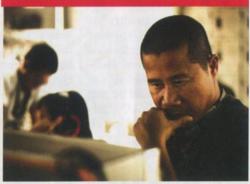
On 5 June, the eagerly anticipated "Soi Dogs" will be screened on behalf of the Phuket Soi Dog Foundation. "Many movies have receptions/parties attached," said Scott. "We are trying to keep to our objective of making the PFF a "sanook" (fun) festival."

The Festival's Gala Opening and Awards will be held on Sunday, 5 June at the Royal Phuket Marina. The event is co-hosted by Global-i-care and Skippers Restaurant.

Additional information on movies and ticket prices can be found at www.phuketfilmfestival.asia. Tickets go on sale 16 May at the Coliseum Cineplex in Phuket Town.

#### A NEW SERVICE FOR READERS

Readers can now find out when the latest movies will be shown in Phuket, thanks to the Post's new movie showtimes feature on phuket-post.com.



Star from 'Friday Killers' checks the movie times on phuket-post.com



It's Marathon Time in Phuket on Sunday 13th June

Join 91.5FM in the 5km Family Walk at the Laguna Phuket International Marathon

★ 91.5FM will donate 100 Baht to charity for each 91.5FM family 5km walker entering with the code 91.5FM ★ Visit www.phuketmarathon.com or www.phuketfmradio.com for more information.





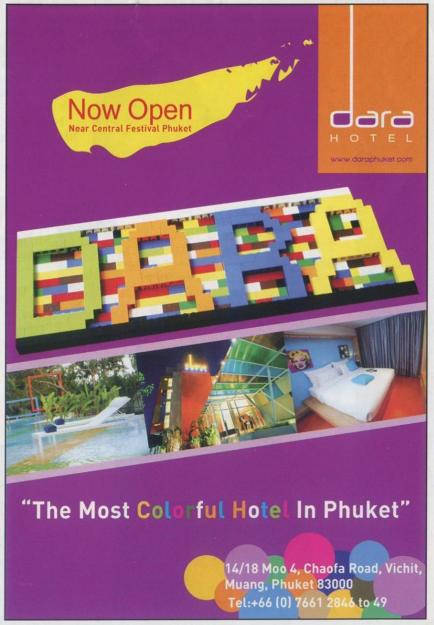
# Posted!!

Spot yourself?
Send photographic proof that you've been 'posted' for a chance to win a pair of tickets for top movies at the Phuket Film Festival.

Email:
posted@phuket-post.com







# Starting with the man in the mirror

WHEN YOU wake up in the mornings, do you shy from your reflection like you do when you see someone in the street that you'd rather you didn't? Or do you look deep into those eyes that stare back and know that they belong to the only person you've ever really trusted? Sure they are surrounded by a few wrinkles which rest to the left and right of a larger than normal nose which luckily offsets the thin...

Are you happy with the way you look or are you one of an increasing number of people who are looking to plastic surgery and facial re-construction to make themselves happy?

Thailand, along with India and South Africa, is one of the most popular destinations for medical tourists and for those seeking to change a part of them very selves.

Why do people do it? Why would anybody want to change the way they look? Would you? We speak to Rushapola S'dawat about his ten year career as a plastic surgeon and also Dr Latex, also known as 'The Rubber Man' to find out more about people who want to change.



DID choose to enter this field of sur-

I did my MD and training in this field and found I was good at it.

What part of your job do you find the most interesting/rewarding?

I find the Facial Feminisation Surgery (FFS) the most interesting. This is changing a man's face into a woman's.

Are there more people getting surgery now than there was a decade ago? Why do you think this is? Plastic surgery began getting popular about 40 years ago but at that point the media didn't pay much attention to it. So it was limited within a



# I can make you better

small group of people.

It started to spread more widely about 15 years ago. When it first became popular, there were only one or two cosmetic and reconstructive surgeons being trained per year, but that figure is now closer to 10-12 as new surgeons are graduating from various medical universities throughout Thailand.

Now plastic surgery is much more accepted and more people are getting surgery as we have many expert surgeons in Thailand and it is comparatively cheap.

What is the most common form of surgery that people come for? Breast enlargement, augmentation and reduction.

What is the most common demographic

that you operate on?

We operate on about 200-250 patients per year. 10-20% are Thai patients and the rest are foreigners. The ration of women:men is 60:40

40% come for breast size reduction and re-sculpting of the breasts

30% for nose surgery

20% to lift and tighten the skin

10% is for bone surgery, like on jaws and cheekbones

The youngest of my clients was 18 and she came

with her parents for facial cosmetic surgery.

Do you have any funny stories?

No

Have you ever refused to operate on someone? Yes, I've refused to operate on under-age clients who come without their parents' permission particularly in cases that will affect their long term health. We do not do stomach operations or fit gastronomic bands to reduce the weight.

Is there any form of surgery that you disagree with doing? Are there any ethical considerations to make before accepting or rejecting a client's request? Before a client comes to our hospital, we will have typically been in contact for

> many months to clarify everything make sure they know what they are We doing. will also ask them to make sure that they want to do the surgery and check that they

are both physically and financially ready.

We reject any surgical operations that may affect the long term effects of people's health like stomach operations. This is because the client might be in the care of a doctor for a long time which will cost them a lot of money. If something goes wrong then this will ultimately spoil our reputa-

Why do people want to change the way they look? It is up to each individual. If they are unhappy or unconfident with their look then I

Do you find that people who come to you are innately unhappy with themselves? Almost everyone is dissatisfied with their physical appearance. Whether we're big or small, it depends on



how each of us deal with it.

For big cases like sex reassignment surgery, the patient must show written evidence from a psychiatrist that he/she does not have a mental illness.

Doesapatient's outlook on life improve after surgery? We have to make sure that the client will be happy with the projected post-surgical results before we decide to accept the case. This ensures that every client walks away with total satisfaction that they have what they want.

If a person is unhappy with the way he/she looks, should they always get surgery? It depends on each individual's decision and their readi-

I'm really happy with my looks and have never wanted to change anything except my teeth. I think I will get (orthodontics) done soon. I think it's ok for people to get for surgery if it helps them gain self-confidence.



I am ok with myself but I think beauty is more important for some kind of jobs than others so I don't think it is wrong if someone wants to make themselves beautiful. I think surgery can be helpful.





# Hypnotherapy in Phuket

Phobias Stop-Smoking

Anxiety of Driving

**Public Speaking** 

Weight Control Sports

More info call: 081 305 6079

online : www.lisa-ryder.con





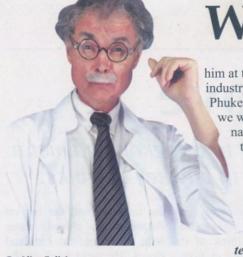


Tam Watcharaphong

I am ok with what I am now and have never thought about getting any surgery done as it would cause too much pain and costs quite a lot.

People who want to get surgery must do research for what suits them the best and with the right surgeons. If things go wrong then you will





By Alice Feliciga

HERE ARE so many things in our world we take for granted and rubber is one of them. How would we live without tires, our bath mats and even the rubber soles on our shoes? When you talk rubber there is one name that always comes to mind and that is Dr. Latex. Born in a small Bavarian village in South Eastern Germany, Dr. Latex is considered to be one of the top Polymer Chemists and innovators in the world. He joined the ranks of MakupArtist Special Effects Manufacture (www.makupartist.com) in 1999. His creative and sometime controversial approaches to rubber has put

him at the forefront of the industry. He has been in Phuket for four years and we were recently fortunate enough to have the good doctor for an interview:

Dr Latex, thank you for agreeing meet with us. Can you please tell us why you chose to enter the field of

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful, Ms. Feliciaga thanks you so much for having me. When I was five-year-old I make first rubber band from bicycle tire and found I was good at it.

Polymer chemistry?

What part of your job do you find most interesting and/or rewarding?

Special FX, which stands for Special Effects, which mean creating illusion of change for human. I especially like change big hairy guy into pretty girl.

Do more people seek transformations then a decade ago and why do you think

40 year ago rubber special

FX was most popular with bank robbers, jewel thief, and of course in cinema. In last twenty year, we are see more people seek extreme realistic transformation. I think basic human condition is boring so many people simply try put little spice in life. Men of course as you know tend to be little wacky and for that reason high percent of world male like put on woman's clothing and dance around room singing, "I'm so pretty I'm so pretty I'm so pretty and witty and gay!"

Wearing rubber masks and big rubber breast becoming more and more accept in society as the appliances have become easy use and more available. So don't be surprise if you at market and check girl total Rubber Babe.

What is the most common mask or rubber piece that people want?

Everyone want be Cindy and Cindy major part of MakupArtist sales. Company also sell many breast enlargement, make C, D, E, F, I and J foam latex skinned foam silicone filled pieces. These piece really are remarkable bit of

technology if you want to take peek at one in action, you can check out video here: http:// www.makupartist.com/flowplayer/example/videos.html

What do you think about plastic surgery and how does it relate to your work?

When I was a small boy, mother taught me body as a temple. Because of this I believe cosmetic surgery even tattoo are defamation mutilation of temple. You want a real eye-opener take look 60year-old woman with breast, rump enlargement and tattoos, saggy lumpy would be mildly put-- tattoo like ink blot, oy.

Do you have any funny stories?

Oh I got ton funny story. One time good friend Arntoph Krasiensky from Institute of Chemistry and Biochemsitry at the Freie Universität Berlin and I, we messing around in lab with Polymers as carriers for rhizobial inoculant formulations as they relate to specialized Nucleic Acids in long change polymer conversion. (Blinded with science: Editor)You have to watch Arnty as I like call him as he is bit of jokester. Anyway, when

I was not looking he spill little bit of Pepsi drink in beaker I stirring and Kabloohe burn eyebrow right off. We laugh and laugh.

Do you find people who come to MakupArtist are innately unhappy with their appearance?

Pretty simply, man want be woman, woman want new man, we can only help man as we not dating service.

Are there any final words you would like to leave with our readers?

Yes, Good Lord in infinite wisdom make us -- so be happy who you are, buy rubber, drink good wine, stay away Pepsi, make love.







By Frank Visakay

H, THANK you." She threw her arms around his neck. Her skin was firm and warm and she smelled of lavender. He felt her tremble. She started to cry softly, her tears spilling down her face and touching his cheek.

"I'm forced to work here. My father borrow much money from owner to pay gambling debts. Now I must have sex with many customers to pay my father's loan. I never go with man before."

"Why don't you just quit?"

"I have no-one to stay with, have no money. You are so handsome man. I wish I could stay with you."

"I have to go back home to New York City at the end of the week."

# Bangkok love

In the last issue, an American traveller went to Bangkok and met a girl in a bar. We left off with him offering to buy her a drink...

"I can go with you."

"What would I have to do?" As he spoke, his voice caught in his throat and his heart raced with the thought of it.

"I must repay my father's loan. Then I'm free. I can stay with you long time. I would give anything go to America." She put her head down and sighed as if it were an impossible dream.

"How much do you owe?"
"One-hundred thousand baht."

He silently calculated the amount. It came to over three thousand dollars. He had brought just a little more than that. This could work, he thought.

It was good luck, a matter of being in the right place at the right time and having the brains to realise it. She was as sweet as apple pie and his friends back home would fall on the floor when they saw her.

He endorsed his traveller's cheques and gave them to the bar owner. He insisted on and received a receipt. As a New Yorker, he knew the importance of doing business correctly.

He and Sai left the bar and flagged down a cab. She rested her head on his shoulder and hugged him all the way back to his hotel. He had a luxury suite at the Marriott on Soi Two, Sukhumvit.

As they entered his room, she exclaimed, "Oh my darling, I was so happy to be going with you, I wasn't thinking. I forgot my clothes and shoes at the bar. I must go back for them."

"Not now, we'll go tomorrow. I want to keep you here with me." "No, I never want to see that place again. I want to be finished. Never think of it again. Please, you can give me only three hundred baht for cab and I'll be able to get everything. I need my toothbrush and comb and things. I come right back to you. Run water in tub and put in lots of bubbles." She kissed him fully and lovingly on the mouth.

The American turned on the water in the tub and called room service. He sat on the bed to wait, filled with happiness, dreaming of her return and of that first naked glimpse of her... After two hours, Sai had still not returned so he grabbed a cab and went back to Patpong.

He was worried about her. Maybe she had an argument with the owner or had been mugged. It was after two in the morning and the bar on Patpong was closed, along with the rest of the bars and stores. He went back to the hotel room but could not sleep.

The American called the local police and then the nearby hospitals. No one had heard of a girl named Sai. He opened his laptop, and googled for agencies that could help, then he read about Thailand in general. He read until the sun came through his window and then read some more.

The American spent an anxious day walking the streets, stopping every now and then for a drink. He could only hope that Sai was all right. He arrived at the bar again shortly after 8pm.

Don't forget to pick up the next issue for the final installment.

# Golden Tulip Mangosteen Club

"Golden Tulip Mangosteen Resort & Spa in Rawai is now offering local residents the opportunity to become a member of its Club and to enjoy a multitude of benefits, among others a one night FREE\* stay in a Superior Jacuzzi room, inclusive of breakfast. Take advantage from the "Member gets a Member"\*\* promotion and get a free gift voucher!"

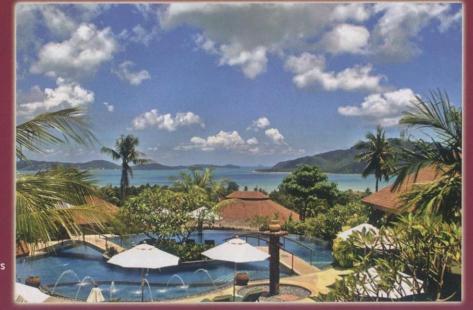


- 25% discount on Food and Beverage, including theme nights
- 30% discount on all spa treatments.
- Free use of our Fitness Centre
- Free use of our swimming pool

\*One night free stay in a

Superior Jacuzzi room inclusive of breakfast for those who purchase a 6 months membership before May 31st.

\*\*"A Member gets a Member" promotion. The first 30 members will get a 600 Baht gift voucher for introducing a new member. Contact us today as the total number of memberships is limited!



Individual Membership

3 months membership 1,500 Baht 6 months membership 2,800 Baht

Family Membership

3 months membership 2,250 Baht 6 months membership 4,200 Baht Golden Tulip Mangosteen Resort & Spa 99/4 Moo 7, T. Rawai, Phuket 83 I 30, Thailand Tel.: +66 (0) 76 289399, Fax +66 (0) 76 289389 info@goldentulipmangosteen.com www.goldentulipmangosteen.com



# Treating your taste buds

N SOME family restaurants, kids have to stand in front of a measuring board to prove that they are under the maximum height restriction so that they may qualify to purchase the kid's meal.

My heart goes out to the gangly eight-year-old whose only crime of growth spurts means that he can't get his burger and chips with a little side serving of chicken nuggets for the same price as his schoolboy mates.

Sometimes we don't give children as much credit as we should, being able to eat a little bit of everything is a great way to dine, in fact in the majority of Asian countries (as i'm sure you're well aware) this is quite common. It is also quite common in Spain and with the 'tapas' style of eating.

The 'Taste' restaurant overlooking Surin beach, was originally conceived with this idea in mind and now serves not only a wide variety of 'tastes' (appetisers) but also full and half portions of sumptuous main courses.

Jade Lama who is the Maitre D' and co-owner of the restaurant along with her husband, Chef Martin said, "We introduced this concept so that our guests may try a few different things. Our menu is very personal and tailored and adjusted and evolving all the time. The guests dictate the menu."

The guests certainly have



Even the napkins mean business

lots to choose from, the first 'taste' I was treated to was the Black Crab Ravioli (225 baht). It is served with a delicious white wine broth and chive mousse which softens the ravioli and makes it very soft and sweet.

Another 'taste' I was given was of the Maryland Crab Cakes (225 baht) with lemon dill aioli, the cakes are made from fresh handpicked black crab and are salty and light and a perfect way to waken the 'taste buds'.

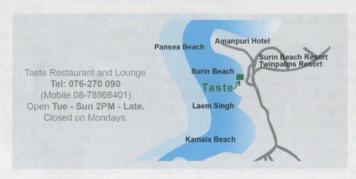
"We actually had a customer from Maryland come here and she said that the crab cakes were perfect, so that's quite and endorsement," Jade said.

The main courses are split into; Big Salads, Pastas,

Fresh Fish, and Meats. Decisions, decisions. Feeling the breeze on my face and smelling the sea air, I watched the stars jostle for prominence against the Phuket clouds and decided that to have anything other than fresh fish would be offensive to Jade who told me, "Every morning we go to the fish market in Bangtao."

They bring back only the freshest catch, which is one reason why new menus are printed every day. I ordered a half portion of Poached Salmon Fillet (395/ full portion 495 baht) with lobsterdill sauce white wine, which although is from Norway, still supports my point, I think. It comes with delicious poached shrimp and vegetables.

With so many restaurants to choose from in Phuket, or even just on the stretch in front of Surin beach why would anyone come to Taste restaurant? Jade replied with confidence, "It's really the best food, Martin is an exquisite chef. He has a real passion for cooking which really shows."



# Dinner for Two (hundred baht)

# Where it's ok to be Shady

By Bupha Ravirot

B-SHADY is located on Montri Road in front of Sino House Phuket Hotel in down town Phuket town. As it is in close proximity to a lively Irish bar, the atmosphere is always really good especially at night time. It is open every evening from 5pm-1am.

As usual, we decided to order based on the owner's recommendations and we chose the delicious yet grammatically incorrect 'Save Dinner Set'. It consisted of deepfried chicken with lemon



sauce (120baht). Big pieces of crispy fried chicken are placed on fried slices of cabbage with sour lemon sauce drizzled on top.

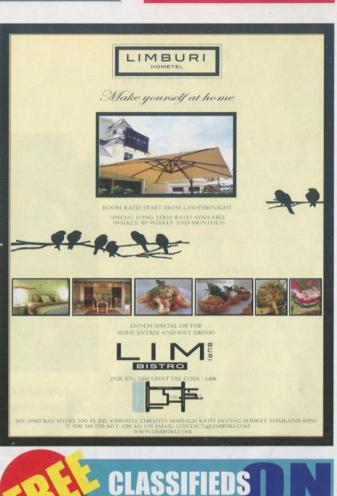
The second course was a spicy tuna salad & crispy

wheat sheets (85 baht), the dish was very Thai and spicy and sour when eaten with the crispy wheat sheets.

It also came with deep-fried pork and lemon grass (85 baht). The lemon grass was bashed into fibre and then fried, it is was deliciously crispy when placed on the salty fried pork.

I know what you're thinking and you're right, it did come to over 200 baht, but not much. Although it should have cost 290 baht, it in fact cost just 240 — so a super saving of 50 baht!

For more information, contact 083 5211149





# Corporate Income Tax for companies

T IS essential for a businessman to know the different corporate income tax rates a Thai and foreign company.

To start with then, it helps to know what the differences between a Thai company, a company registered under Thai laws and a foreign company

Thai Company: A Thai company generally pays up to 30% tax on their net profit. Some types of companies, such as small businesses with a paidup capital of less than 5 million baht, are entitled to between 15-30% rate reduction.

Foreign Company: A foreign company conducting business in Thailand, whether it has a branch, an office, an employee or an agent in Thailand will pay 30% tax on profit deriving from business in Thailand.

An international transportation company shall pay a 3% tax rate on gross receipts.

Foreign Company Abroad: A foreign company that does have business premises in Thailand will be subject to withholding tax on certain categories of income derived within Thailand. The withholding tax rates may be further reduced or exempted depending on types of income under the provision of the Double Taxation Agreement.

Remittance of profits 10% Dividends

Other income such as interests, royalties, capital gains, rents and pro-15% fessional fees

Tax Registration: A foreign company operating abroad but within Thailand must apply for a tax identification number from the Revenue Department. An application form (Lor Por 10.3) together with other relevant documents i.e. a copy of a company's registration license, house registration, etc should be submitted to the Area Revenue Office.

Tax Treaties to Avoid Double Taxation: Thailand has concluded tax treaty agreements with 51 countriesincluding Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China P.R., Cyprus, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, United Arab Emirates, UK and the USA among others.

A Thai or Foreign Company operating in Thailand must submit their tax returns and payments twice a year.

The amount of tax due shall be half of the entire year projection of the company's annual net profit.

Sirirat C. is the Managing Director of NAT, the ISO 9001:2008 certified accounting firm. Call 076 375 699 www.thaiaccounting.com

# Face to face with **Andrew Whitaker**

Increasingly we are seeing

wealthy escapees from

the congested and

polluted cities of mid Asia

and China wanting to

establish homes in

Phuket.



PERFECT sunset spreads across Kamala Bay with psychedelic tendrils raking the western sky while balls of soft lightning explode within gathering rain clouds on the island's mountainous spine, presaging rain perhaps?

Andrew Whitaker is clad in flowing white shirt and pants and positively bounds along the 40 metre poolside to meet me. I am reminded of a fit-looking New Age guru taking the podium before an amphitheatre of adoring acolytes, or a successful "lifestyle coach", which of course in many ways is exactly what Andrew is.

Sipping chilled Sauvignon Blanc in one of Phuket's most famous eateries, the remodeled "Silk", now situated poolside at the new Andara Resort and Spa, it's hard not to be impressed. And so I am.

What does it feel like to have the best job in the world?

(Laughs) You're right. I do feel immensely privileged to be taking on this

job in such a wonderful new property and at this time in Phuket. I think the market is ripe for the launch of a superb new top end resort and spa. It's a sector of the market that is by no means cluttered. Certainly Amanpuri, Trisara and the like have pioneered, but despite the economic turmoil, the sector is burgeoning and there's a large and growing audience of high net worth, hightaste, high-expectation residents and visitors to whom we offer exactly what they seek.

Phuket in 2010 is also a great place to launch. Connectivity, air routes and frequencies are taking a massive leap forward, and the future expansion of the airport plus ideas like a private jet terminal and parking, are grist to our particular clients' mill.

Increasingly we are wealthy escapees from the congested and polluted cities of mid Asia and China wanting to establish homes in Phuket and even moving their families and children to be educated here, while they commute in and out each weekend.

Phuket has always been a happily "democratic" island in terms of in-bound tourists being able to find whatever level of experience and price bracket suits them...from back-packers to millionaires. Within that the extreme high-end sector is witnessing the development of infrastructure, entertainment, F&B, maritime and other sports services to match the highest global standards. The future looks bright.

The GM of the newly-opened Andara Resort and Spa at Kamala Beach talks with Baz Daniel about having the 'best job in the world'

What's it like working for Allan Zeman?

Allan is a wonderful boss as he is totally supportive, always accessible and very involved in everything we are doing at Andara. In many ways the resort is a manifestation of Allan's own vision and tastes. The Hong Kong architect, Branko Pahor, who also designed Allan's own home - Chandara, just north of here - and Surin Plaza, was the architect for Andara

I think the fact that Andara has already hit the coveted Conde Nast Traveler Hot List for 2010, so soon after our opening in December, is a great endorsement of Allan's vision and the intensity of his personal drive for excel-

Tell us about the business model for the resort.

The model is a common one around the Andaman, with owners buying the 26 residential pool villas and

37 residential suites prior to final construction. They then had the option of entering the rental pool for the time when they are not using their residence personally, with Andara managing their property for them as part of the ongoing resort. As I say, it's a common model but I think the big difference was the fact that this was a development of Allan's, which meant

that people had faith that it would be executed and managed to the very highest standards. The villas and residences were quickly sold out and so the resort has been well financed from day one.

What are some of the true sybaritic touches that make Andara different?

I think the whole development is full of examples of state of the art excellence. Obviously the location is sensational overlooking Kamala Bay and the Andaman. Every villa has a full time housekeeper and chef to attend to all the guests' or owners needs, including meal planning and cooking in the superbly equipped private

> We also own and operate two magnificent Baglietto Italian-designed motor yachts, which are available for private charter. The yachts have been exquisitely customised to match our standards, offering the same level of luxury, comfort and service of the

> Finally, I was going to ask Andrew why they chose to relocate Silk restaurant, which had already established itself as a Phuket icon on the top floor of Surin Plaza. But when I saw the stunning new location beside the resort's sensational pool overlooking Kamala Beach and now offering true outdoor luxury dining, as well as the old Silk indoor ambience, I realised this was a bit of a redundant question. So I kept quiet.

www.andaraphuket.com



# A Surin III

# **DELIGHT!**





Phuket and is without doubt one of the nicest parts of the island. The beautiful sandy beach, fringed with palm tress and numerous small restaurants adds to the attraction, along with the historic Kings Park, countless first class hotels and high-end developments.

This issue's pick of the crop is a mere 150m walk from the beach. The property is a 5-star boutique condominium, designed by architectural company Paradise Designs, and built by leading construction company World Construction.

The development is the brainchild of Larry Cunningham, Honorary Australian Consul for Phuket. When he first saw this land he realised its potential, and through sheer hard work and determination, he and his highly skilled team have created something really special. Larry also has a long established Real Estate company, which led by the experienced Paul Martins, has sold over 75% of the units.

From the front the outside is very modern, with a mixture of clean white lines, glass, and bougainvillea plants which adds color and softens the look. Inside is the stylish reception, manned by smartly dressed welcoming staff.

The main feature of the common area is a huge swimming pool; measuring in total 900sqm, with jacuzzi, lots of sundeck chairs and massage areas. The whole area is so tranquil and welcoming you rarely feel the need to venture out to the beach.

The 45 apartments are housed in three buildings, with living areas ranging in size from 153sqm to 535sqm. The layouts start from two bedrooms, with two bathrooms up to four bedrooms with four bathrooms. These figures are impressive and so are the views, with a choice of looking out over the pool, garden or sea.

All the units come with built in air con, western kitchen, well appointed bathrooms, finely selected fixtures, fittings and furniture.

The ROI has been very impressive and continues to grow, with many early buyers holding onto their investment as they know they have bought something of real quality which is not only a fantastic home, but has appreciated considerably in capital and provides marvelous rental returns.

Overall this is without doubt one of the nicest condominiums I have visited and with Larry at the helm, it will remain so for many years to come. With current prices starting from just over 20 million baht it represents great value for money.

Chitlada Klouphit is the Managing Director of Aqua Property Group, a Real Estate Agency based in Phuket. To find out more about this property you can contact her by phone on 086 956 1379 or e-mail apple@aquapropertygroup.com or visit www.aquapropertygroup.com.



THE DEPUTY Minister of the Ministry of Commerce Alongkorn Ponlaboot along with Phuket MP Rawat Areerob attended the 30 April opening ceremony of the 'Bangtao Tropical Residence Resort and Spa.'

The resort has 56 luxury condominiums within four stories including 1 bedroom tropical suites and 2 bedroom pentouses with pools located on 4 rai of land. Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Commerce, Alongkorn Ponlaboot was enthusiastic about the resort, "This project adheres to the current Government policy to support the Phuket real estate market and urge more property investments in Phuket."

Minister Alongkorn also said that they are currently planning the next Phuket real estate road show which will showcase the opportunities on the island to the worldwide market, especially Hong Kong, Singapore, South Asia and Europe.

Minister Alongkorn is hoping that this be one way in which the current economical crisis be solved. "I believe we can solve the political crisis soon, and we will do anything to make foreign countries trust in us again."



The Tewana Home Project from Uncle Chai is located in a quiet, natural area of Chalong and minutes away from major facilities including international hospitals and schools, shopping centres, marinas, beaches and Phuket Town.

Highlights of the fully furnished house include a swimming pool, three bedrooms and a western kitchen on 632sqm of land.

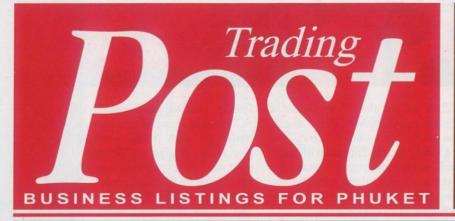
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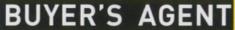
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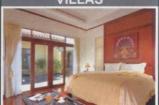


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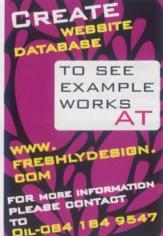
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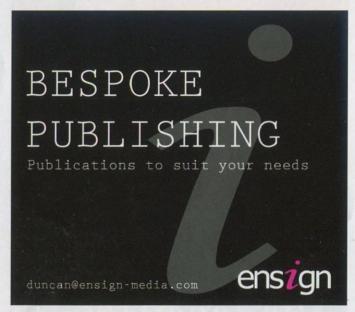




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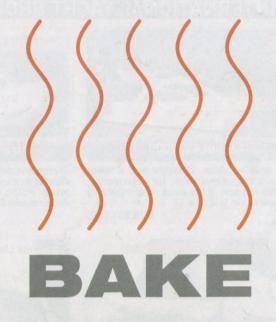
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